Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

(Current Amended) A binary decision diagram package comprising:
an arrangement for identifying at least two nodes in a graph;

said identifying arrangement being adapted to assign integer numbers to different nodes, whereby the use of pointers is precluded and at least a partial order among the nodes is maintained.

- 2. (Original) The package according to Claim 1, wherein said identifying arrangement is adapted to assign consecutive integer numbers to different nodes.
- 3. (Original) The package according to Claim 1, wherein said identifying arrangement is adapted to assign to a given node an integer number which coincides with an index in a memory array in which the node resides.
- 4. (Original) The package according to Claim 1, wherein said identifying arrangement is adapted to access an indexed node via a paging access scheme.
- 5. (Original) The package according to Claim 4, wherein said identifying arrangement is adapted to access an indexed node via a two-step paging access scheme.

- 6. (Original) The package according to Claim 1, wherein said identifying arrangement is adapted to avoid the use of reference counts.
- 7. (Original) The package according to Claim 1, wherein the graph is a directed acyclic graph.
- 8. (Current Amended) A method of employing a binary decision diagram package, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least two nodes in a graph;

said identifying step comprising assigning integer numbers to different nodes, whereby the use of pointers is precluded and at least a partial order among the nodes is maintained.

- (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said assigning step comprises assigning consecutive integer numbers to different nodes.
- 10. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said assigning step comprises assigning to a given node an integer number which coincides with an index in a memory array in which the node resides.
- 11. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein said identifying step comprises accessing an indexed node via a paging access scheme.
- 12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein said accessing step comprises accessing an indexed node via a two-step paging access scheme.

- 13. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 78, wherein said identifying step includes avoiding the use of reference counts.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 78, wherein the graph is a directed acyclic graph.
- 15. (Current Amended) A program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for employing a binary decision diagram package, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying at least two nodes in a graph;

said identifying step comprising assigning integer numbers to different nodes, whereby the use of pointers is precluded and at least a partial order among the nodes is maintained.